

SENATE BILL NO. 182

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR WILSON

Introduced: 2/8/22

Referred: Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the crime of interference with emergency communications."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 11.56 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 11.56.785. Interference with emergency communications.** (a) A person
5 commits the crime of interference with emergency communications if the person
6 knowingly

7 (1) makes repeated emergency communications to report a previously
8 reported incident with no change in circumstance with the intent to cause an
9 emergency police, fire, or medical service response, after an emergency
10 communications worker instructs the person to stop initiating contact for the
11 previously reported incident;

12 (2) makes repeated emergency communications knowing that there is
13 not a police, fire, or medical emergency;

14 (3) uses obscene language during an emergency communication with
15 the intent to intimidate or harass an emergency communications worker; or

(4) interferes with, blocks, or otherwise disrupts communications between an emergency communications worker and police, fire, or medical service personnel, or between police, fire, or medical service personnel, with the intent to cause a disruption in service; this paragraph does not apply to routine maintenance conducted by authorized personnel.

(b) In this section,

(1) "emergency communication" means a communication made to an emergency communications center;

(2) "emergency communications center" means a facility that is designed to receive requests for emergency assistance and staffed to perform one or more of the following tasks:

(A) determine the location at which an emergency response is being requested;

(B) interrogate callers to identify, assess, prioritize, and classify requests for emergency assistance and other information;

(C) determine the appropriate emergency response required;

(D) assess the available emergency response resources that are or will be available in the time required;

(E) dispatch appropriate police, fire, or medical personnel;

(F) transfer or exchange requests for emergency assistance and other information with other emergency communications centers and emergency response providers;

(G) analyze and respond to communications received from emergency response providers and coordinate appropriate actions; and

(H) support incident command functions;

(3) "emergency communications worker" means a person handling emergency communications at an emergency communications center.

(c) Interference with emergency communications is

(1) a class C felony if

(A) within the preceding 10 years, the person was convicted on two or more separate occasions of interference with emergency

1 communications in this jurisdiction or a similar crime in another jurisdiction;
2 or

3 (B) the interference results in serious physical injury to or the
4 death of a person; or

5 (2) a class A misdemeanor.

6 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
7 read:

8 APPLICABILITY. AS 11.56.785, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, applies to offenses
9 committed on or after the effective date of this Act.